

The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

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Look who's been visiting Southbank?

Santa made his way down to Southbank last month to check out the new buildings and map out his flight plan for December 24.

He'll be back in town again when Boyd Community Hub invites the community to celebrate Christmas together with a Christmas Buoyed @ Boyd on Thursday, December 12.

The celebrations kick off from 4.30pm and include performances from The Mudcakes and Fairy Caitlin, Vardos and Santa to hear everyone's Christmas wishes.

There will also be food trucks and a Christmas paper craft workshop from Paperlab.

Cr Richard Foster encouraged the entire community to come together and enjoy the surrounds of the Boyd community hub.

"Christmas at Boyd will no doubt be another wonderful family-friendly event and a time to celebrate and relax with your neighbours," Cr Foster said

"I encourage Southbank residents to come and enjoy the entertainment and good company at Boyd, City of Melbourne's beautifully-restored community hub on City Road."

For more information on Christmas Buoyed @ Boyd head to www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boyd or call 9658 8317.

There is plenty of other Christmas activities happening in Southbank over the month, check out all the details inside.

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Merry Christmas from Southbank Local News!

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Deadline for the Feb edition is Feb 13.

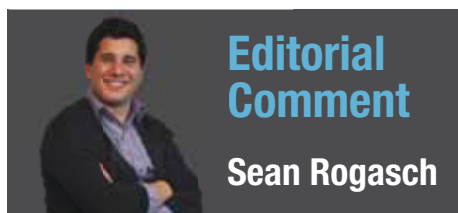
Can you believe it? The year is all but over and, if you haven't got your Christmas shopping sorted out yet, you'd better get onto it!

It's been a big year for us here at the *Southbank Local News* as we've grown and established ourselves as an important part of this vibrant suburb.

The reason we've been able to bring you the paper each month is our advertisers. I thank them for their ongoing support and implore you to support them as well.

Of course there are many people who I'd like to personally thank for their hard work throughout the year and without whom the paper would simply fail to exist.

Starting off with David and Wendy Beech, my wonderful delivery wizards! David and Wendy have lived here in Southbank for 18 years and are the sort of people who make it a community rather than just a collection of buildings.



**Editorial
Comment**

Sean Rogasch

Our graphic designers, firstly Nicola St John and then Chris Vernon, who probably curse some of the ideas I come up with but always manage to make them look great on the page.

The column contributors in no specific order: Tim Bracher, Korey Fernando, Michael Smolders, Peter O'Rourke, Tony Penna, and the St Johns team including Father Ian Vaikkai and Malcolm Schmitke.

These different voices help create a diverse paper and ensure it stays interesting for you, the reader.

Also to all those readers who have been moved to write a letter to the editor this year, whether it's positive or not, we appreciate the participation. Thanks also to proof-reader Bethany Williams.

Finally to Shane Scanlan who is the fatherly figure behind the paper's success and his guidance and advice is invaluable.

So that's it for another year. This edition will cover December and January and we'll be back raring to go for our February edition.

So from the *Southbank Local News*, have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

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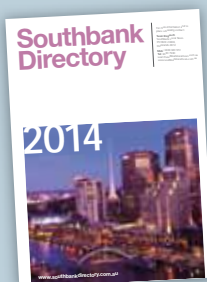
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SOUTHBANK DIRECTORY 2014

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Social Inclusion Week concert hits Boyd

Southbank locals were treated to an interactive concert from the School of Hard Knocks at Boyd Community Hub in November as part of Social Inclusion Week.

School of Hard Knocks members invited the public to sing along to a collection of songs from voice warm-up exercises to numbers from their adaptation of a musical.

The concert also included members from the original Choir of hard knocks (now known as the Choir of Hope and Inspiration).

The School of Hard Knocks is a social enterprise which encourages people who have experienced hardship and is ran by Jonathon Welch AM.



Wills & Estates

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Melbourne Now on display in Southbank

One of National Gallery of Victoria's (NGV) most daring projects 'Melbourne Now' began in November and art lovers are in for a treat, as it is set to run right through summer.

The exhibition brings together over 400 artists and is not only spread between NGV's two locations, on St Kilda Rd and the Ian Potter Centre at Federation Square but also utilises various other locations around Melbourne.

Artists, architects fashion designers and jewelers have produced works for the exhibition.

NGV director Tony Ellwood said *Melbourne Now* was a coming-of-age for the NGV and enabled it to provide for both artists and consumers.

"Melbourne Now has enabled us to evolve as an institution and provide new opportunities for our artists and designers while, at the same time, inviting participation from the

widest possible audience," Mr Ellwood explained.

Minister for the Arts Heidi Victoria said it showed off Melbourne to the rest of the world.

"It is often stated that Melbourne is Australia's cultural capital. *Melbourne Now* is set to prove this yet again," Ms Victoria said.

"The exhibition will surprise and reward visitors again and again, and what is even more exciting is that it's all free. The Victorian Government is proud to support this program and I encourage you all to explore, experience and be inspired by, the very best of *Melbourne Now*," she added.

Melbourne Now runs until March 2014.



Happy birthday Recital Centre

Southbank's much-loved Melbourne Recital Centre turns five in February and to celebrate it will hold a huge birthday bash.

The day-long event on Saturday, February 8 will feature a wide range of musical performances to ensure all music lovers will have something to celebrate. The variety also highlights the versatility of the venue.

Recital Centre CEO, Mary Vallentine, said MRC wanted to both celebrate the past and embrace the future, hoping to attract new faces to the birthday celebrations.

"Melbourne Recital Centre is the city's home for music - it belongs to, and has something to offer, everyone. We're proud to know that it is a welcoming place where the entire community comes together to make and share great music," Ms Vallentine said.

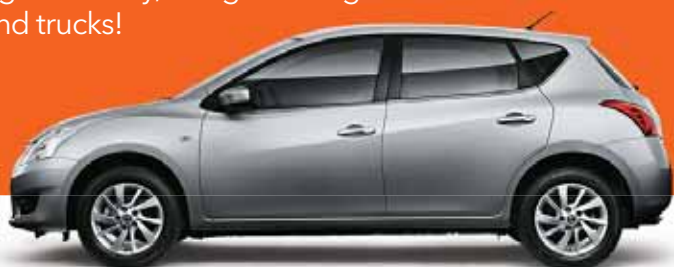
The birthday bash is a free event. For more details head to www.melbournerecital.com.au/birthday

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Street transformed in 'Dodds St Reboot'

Dodds St underwent a transformation in November, as part of the 'Dodds St ReBoot'.

The "reboot" was an initiative of CoDesign Studio which, in conjunction with Arts Victoria, attempted to activate the street space for the use of local residents, workers and students.

The four-day street "reboot" included creating a public space, providing greenery, better conditions for cyclists and pedestrians and providing more food options.

Helen Rowe from CoDesign said the ideas had come from a public consultation.

"Earlier in the year CoDesign's team asked locals what they'd like to see happen on Dodds St and at Dodds Street ReBoot we aimed to prototype these ideas," Ms Rowe explained.

She said the street was already blocked off to traffic so it was the perfect space.

"The basic idea of the project is that this space is under-utilised - it's already blocked off to traffic - and Southbank could do with some more street life and community space," Ms Rowe said.

"We thought it would be a great space to temporarily reclaim and see how else it

could be used as well as finding out what people think of it," she added.

Ms Rowe went on to say the experiment was a great success and locals responded very positively to it.

"We had a really great reception from locals - both talking to residents as well as students and people who live nearby," Ms Rowe said.

"They saw it as a way to meet other locals, great for letting kids play on the street, especially doing chalk drawings! Even just providing seats and a bit of greenery was appreciated," she added.

Mr Rowe said she hoped the momentum from this first reboot could lead to more activation projects in the future.

"We're going to pull together the pictures and feedback from the event and provide this to the local arts precinct stakeholders and the City of Melbourne," she explained.

"We hope that what we've achieved demonstrates that Dodds St could be used differently that this 'reboot' creates momentum for more creative uses of the street into the future."



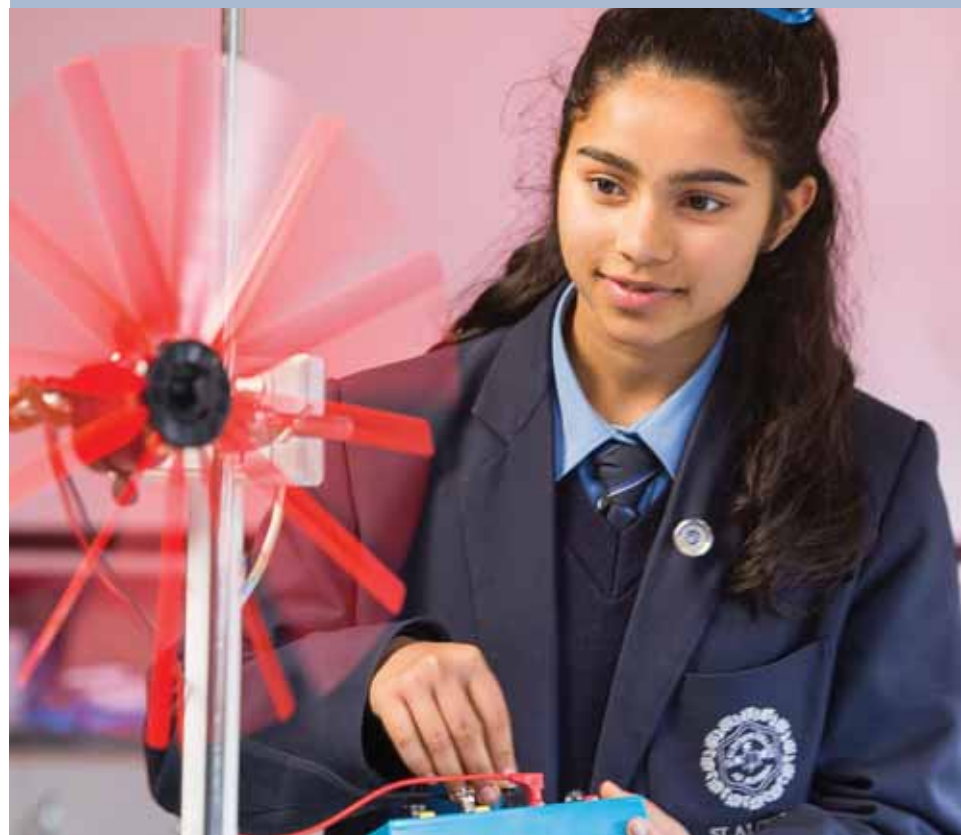
Pucker up for Christmas

It'll be easier for you to convince your crush to cozy up under the mistletoe this Christmas with the installation of a giant

mistletoe decoration on the footbridge between Southgate and Flinders St Station.



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Developer contributions on the agenda

The City of Melbourne wants to extract maximum developer contribution from a Haig St project.

The council is asking the Minister for Planning to apply the provisions of the new Amendment C208, the Development Contributions Plan Overlay, which allows for more transparency around developer contribution.

The development, at 57-59 Haig St, is 122 metres high, with 39 levels, will include 249 new apartments and has been designed by Bruce Henderson Architects.

Council supports the tower but, as well as wanting Amendment C208 applied, it also wants the Minister to look carefully at

setbacks as defined in the Capital City Zone planning guidelines.

The council's chair of planning, Cr Ken Ong, said it was a pretty simply conclusion to come to, now that Amendment C208 was in place.

"It's pretty straight forward. The officers have looked at it and worked with the developer and also the Department of Planning to come to a conclusion and we've added in there the additional item of the development contribution, in line with planning scheme amendment C208, which has been out there for a while," Cr Ong explained.

Cr Stephen Mayne said the amendment was important, given the historical discrepancy between Melbourne's developer contributions and those of other major cities.

"I was up in Brisbane two weeks ago and the State Government up there gets \$20,000 levy on every apartment. Massive. City of Sydney, \$2 million a week coming through the door at the moment for the last 15 months in developer contributions," Cr Mayne pointed out.

"Our arrangement, historically, has been a fraction of what has applied in Sydney and

Brisbane and I think it is appropriate as we have that policy out there that we start applying it, or requesting that the Minister apply it, as these Ministerial applications come through," he added.

Cr Mayne also noted that the Haig St application was 30,000 sqm and only just inside the Planning Minister Matthew Guy's threshold for planning approvals.

"It's only just over the threshold for the Minister of 25,000 sqm. The conditions are important, as is the amendment there with the developer contribution."

Skywhale visits ACCA

The infamous Skywhale that helped Canberra celebrate its 100th birthday earlier in the year has made a fleeting visit to Southbank, taking flight over the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) during December.

The 34 metre long and 23 metre high Skywhale is double the size of a regular hot air balloon and is made from 3.5 km of fabric.

The balloon is a creation of Patricia Piccinini.

Right: The skywhale balloons itself over ACCA, thrilling the early morning onlookers.



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Sitting on the fringe of Southbank and South Melbourne gives the perfect balance of city and suburban lifestyle, the recently built Tiara building is Southbank's newest prestige development.

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This spacious two bedroom apartment on the 20th floor is located in the prestigious Tiara building, one of Southbank's most desired developments. Recently completed this apartment is complemented with a modern European kitchen and stylish fittings throughout.

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New networking event a success

The first Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) and 'Southbank Local News' networking luncheon was a huge hit in November with around 70 local workers and residents coming together for food, connecting and learning about the area.

The event was held at Rivers Edge at WTC Wharf and diners had ample time to mingle and make new connections before sitting down for a meal and presentation from Red Rock Leisure's John Foreman.

Mr Foreman explained the concept of a Chinese New Year extravaganza on the Yarra and implored businesses to get behind the idea.

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher said the organisation had been pleased with the response.

"We were very encouraged with numbers for the first event and it has confirmed that there is a need for a regular networking opportunity among the local business community," Mr Bracher said.

He went on to explain that the luncheon, plus other events will become regular occurrences for the YRBA.

"It will definitely be a regular event on the YRBA calendar, interspersed with a couple of evening cocktail functions a year as well. The first cocktail evening will be in Eureka 89 during April, to announce the winners of the Yarra River Customer Service Awards."



Around 70 guests enjoyed the beautiful food and views while networking at River's Edge at WTC Wharf.



John Foreman, Emma Kent with and Paul Sullivan.



Guests had plenty of time to network before lunch.

Council to protect heritage

With the high level of development in Southbank over the last decade it would be easy to imagine there are no heritage listed sites in the suburb at all.

In fact there are 35 different heritage listed sites here in Southbank and in November the City of Melbourne launched its 15-year heritage strategy to help protect these and other sites across the city.

Heritage protected sites include the Boyd school, the former Main Point Hotel (now the costume shop), the former Bank of NSW (now a cafe), the former Robur Tea building, the police stable and the old Collins Mitsubishi shed.

The strategy focuses on which sites are vitally important to protect and how the council

can influence their protection.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said it was important Melbourne continued its protection of significant landmarks and buildings.

"Melbourne is renowned as one of the world's great Victoria-era cities which contains many streetscapes, parks and buildings recognised as important heritage places," Cr Doyle said.

Find out more about all the heritage listed sites in Southbank in our new column on page 16



The Opera Centre on City Rd is just one of the many heritage listed sites here in Southbank.



Do you like public art such as "The Wall" under the Kingsway overpass at Crown Casino? Let the Council know.

Have your say on arts strategy

Southbank is undisputedly Melbourne's home to the arts so the City of Melbourne's Arts Strategy 2014-17 will undoubtedly be influenced by voices in our area.

The council is calling for submissions from the public to let it know what its role should be in supporting and contributing to the arts.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the arts would remain one of the council's priorities.

"The City of Melbourne's current Arts Strategy has allowed us to support and

promote artists and arts organisations and we would like to build on this in the development of our new strategy for 2014-17," Cr Doyle explained.

You can have your say online at www.participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/projects/arts-strategy or on Twitter and Facebook using the hashtag #melbournearts



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Bourne wins climb again

To borrow a line from AFL commentator Anthony Hudson, he's gone back-to-back-to-back!

Mark Bourne, the tower-climbing champion from Canberra won his third successive Eureka Climb last month and smashed the record that he set in 2012.

The elite woman winner was Brooke Logan who completed the 89-level race in just over 10 minutes.

There were around 2400 competitors in this year's event who collectively raised \$250,000 for charity partners of the club, Whitelion and Interplast.



Three time climb winner Mark Bourne.



There was no shortage of dress-ups as some of the less competitive climbers made their way up the 89 floors.

Damien creates his own big break

How many 24 year-olds are truck driving-actors who have just produced and starred in their first feature film?

Southbank resident Damien Lipp is one such character and his film, *Beckoning the Butcher*, is gaining traction in Melbourne's film landscape.

After entering the horror film into a Monster Pictures festival *Beckoning the Butcher* sold out the Cinema Nova in Carlton and received a number of positive reviews.

Damien said the film was an off-the-cuff decision, after he had hired a camera.

"I just went out and got a camera and rang a mate of mine and said: 'let's make a movie!'" Damien explained.

"He got back to me with a script in about a week!"

From there the location of Kerang was decided on, a country town in northern Victoria, where Damien grew up.

"The whole town got behind the movie and we were given access the to house we wanted to shoot in which made it nice and easy," Damien said.

Damien works for his family's truck driving business, a job that he described as "an

actors dream".

He works mornings mostly, leaving the bulk of the day to chase auditions or make movies.

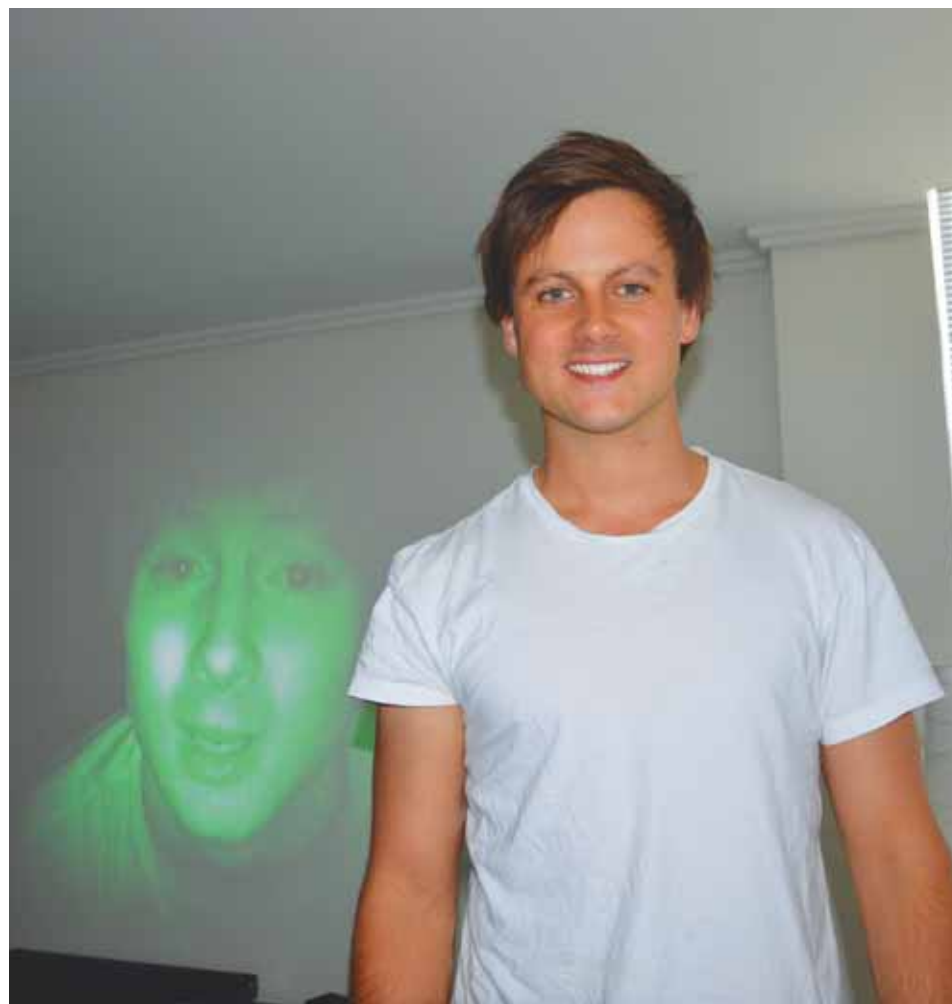
It helps that driving is something that Damien also loves, a fact that becomes abundantly clear when *Southbank Local News* asked whether he'd always dreamed of becoming an actor.

"No, I actually wanted to be a V8 Supercar driver and really, I still do. My thinking was I could get famous in Australia acting, then they'd let me drive in the celebrity V8 race."

You can't help but wonder what the careers counsellor at school would make of that plan.

For more information of *Beckoning the Butcher*, head to the Facebook page www.facebook.com/BeckoningTheButcher

Left: Damien Lipp has just produced and starred in his own film. He gave 'Southbank Local News' a sneak peak at the film's trailer.



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Council united against violence

The City of Melbourne (CoM) has confirmed its commitment to preventing violence against women and has adopting its 'We need to talk: Preventing violence against women strategy 2013-16'.

In a first for a capital city council, councillors unanimously supported the strategy ahead of White Ribbon Day, which was on November 25.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said one in three woman over 15 had experienced violence and this was simple not okay.

"That is a frightening and unacceptable statistic, especially when we know that violence is the leading cause of homelessness among women in Melbourne," Cr Doyle said.

"A year after Melbourne signed on as a White Ribbon city, and on the eve of White Ribbon Day I am proud that we have delivered on our pledge to do what we can to end violence against women," he added.

Read the strategy online at www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/CommunityServices/CommunitySafety/Pages/PreventingViolenceAgainstWomen



Dancing on by the red stairs

The Australian Dancesport Championship was held in December but, before it got underway, it was launched with a dancing display at Queensbridge Square in November.

Changing attitudes

Active Melbourne City Sports is encouraging workplaces to get active during their lunch hour by taking up The Corporate Challenge.

The Corporate Challenge provides Southbank workers an opportunity to engage in physical activity at the Tan track or at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

The activities include soccer, netball, basketball and lawn bowls competitions.

Active Melbourne City Sports' Peter O'Rourke said there was research showing just 30 per cent of workers were actually taking a lunch break.

"It is well established that team-based activities contribute to building stronger workplace relationships and can improve the overall workplace culture," Mr O'Rourke explained.

"The benefits of exercise include reducing cardiovascular risk, helps protect against type 2 diabetes and some forms of cancer. It also has benefits for musculoskeletal health in maintaining muscle strength, joint functioning and bone health," he added.

For more information on the Corporate Challenge or to register a team head to www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/amcs

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Tell us who has 'Made your Day'

The Yarra River Precinct Customer Service Awards is a consumer awards program that enables you to nominate a business and/or an individual in the local retail, accommodation or hospitality sector who has impressed you with their commitment to service.

Nominated businesses or individuals need to be located or working in the area along the Yarra River between Punt Road and Bolte Bridges, including Southbank and on the north bank to the southern edge of Flinders Street.

The nomination also puts you in the draw for some great prizes.

Your name _____

Your address _____

Your email (or tel. no) _____

I wish to nominate the following person and/or business for consideration in the Yarra River Customer Service Awards

1. Individual nominee _____

The business they work for _____

2. Business nomination _____
(note: feel free to nominate an individual and a business)

Cut out this form and post to:

Yarra River Business Association
Reply Paid 88876
Flinders Lane Vic 8009



Southgate shares some Christmas joy

Southgate is ramping up its Christmas celebrations with a selection of activities and services to make sure shopping during the festive season doesn't become a chore.

Again the centre will help take the stress out of gift-wrapping by providing gift-wrapping for a gold coin donation. The best part is the money raised will support the Starlight Children's Foundation. The service will be available from 11am to 2pm on Wednesday-Friday during December.

And what would Christmas be without carols? On Sundays during December the Australian Youth Choir will be in the centre singing everyone's favourite Christmas songs. The choir will also have three special performances on December 17, 18 and 19 from 7pm-8pm.

To top of the Christmas season Southgate Cinema will hold a very special screening on December 24, showing the live broadcast of Carols by Candlelight, from just down the road at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

Southgate's Jo Gartner said it was a special time of year and Southgate was thrilled to provide these services.

"Christmas is a time to give back to those in need, so we're pleased to support the Starlight Foundation through our in-centre Christmas gift wrapping, while also helping locals find unique gifts to place under the tree this year," Ms Gartner said.

"Southbank's local residents have really embraced Southgate Cinema over the past few years, so we saw the opportunity to broadcast Carols by Candlelight as a way to support the community in coming together on this festive occasion," she added.

For more information head to the Southgate website www.celebratesouthgate.com.au



School of hard knocks' school fete at Boyd

The School of Hard knocks has been busy this month. As reported on page 2 it hosted a concert at Boyd Community Hub for Social Inclusion Week and to add to that it also held a school fete during December.

The fete featured stalls with plenty of craft and second-hand gift ideas for Christmas, music and a special visit from Santa.

Pictured above: Jan, Beverley, Rennie, Matt and Andrea.

Pictured right: Michael, Sharon, Karen and Jonathon let Santa know what they want this year.



Southgate is again raising money for the Starlight Children's Foundation with its Christmas activities this year.

Recycling residents to be rewarded with green money

Southbank residents are being offered the opportunity to earn 'GreenMoney' for recycling after the City of Melbourne initiated a trial focused on its high-rise apartment complexes.

The 12-month initiative encourages locals to recycle by offering the opportunity to earn points which can be used to claim discounts and special offers at selected retailers such as Eureka Skydeck, Melbourne Theatre Company and Subway.

It's the first trial of its kind in Victoria and Cr Arron Wood said the program was yet another example of the council being a world leader in environmental matters.

"The City of Melbourne is recognised as a global leader in sustainability and one of the reasons for this is our willingness to try innovative new solutions," Cr Wood said.

The program lets locals earn points based on the weight of their recycling each month, with 100 points roughly equating to \$10 worth of savings from participating businesses.

"One of the biggest challenges we face as a capital city council is the amount of landfill we produce, so we are always looking at new ways to reduce it and improve recycling," Cr Wood explained.

He also said that there were added benefits on top of the obvious environmental implications.

"As well as promoting environmental responsibility, GreenMoney will support participating Southbank businesses by encouraging residents to spend their points locally."

The program got underway in November and you can find out more or sign up online by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/ml7l58x>



Councillor Arron Wood is encouraging Southbank's high-rise residents to recycle as often as possible.



Night noodle markets attract huge crowds

Alexandra Gardens played host to the Noodle Night Markets in November with crowds swarming to sample tastes from several of Melbourne's leading Asian eateries.

The warm weather made the gardens an ideal location for lazy afternoons.

Restaurants with stalls included Chin Chin, Longrain, Izakaya Den and Mamak.

The event has been held in Sydney but this was the first time it had come to Melbourne. Given the response, it wouldn't be surprising if we saw it again next year.

Yarra loop back for summer

The Yarra Loop water taxi service will be in operation this summer after WTC Wharf again began running the service, transporting passengers by boat to destinations along the Yarra.

The service will run on Fridays between 4pm and 7pm and on the weekends between 11am and 5pm.

It has four stops: WTC Wharf, South Wharf, Southgate and Federation Wharf at Federation Square.

WTC Wharf's Phillip Hill said last year's service had been a great success and he

hoped the loop would increase in popularity this year.

"Last year, 200 people used the service and with a growing number of premier restaurants, bars, shopping and entertainment precincts opening up along the Yarra, we anticipate numbers this year to increase dramatically," Mr Hill said.

"We also expect that the Yarra Loop will once again be a desirable option for workers looking for a reliable and affordable mode of transport from one end of the city to the other," he added.

The Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) are also pleased about the return of the Yarra Loop. YRBA president John Ahern said the service was a great benefit to the Yarra River precinct.

"The WTC Yarra Loop service was a welcome addition to Melbourne's transport network in 2012/13 and was a landmark step toward greater activation and integration of Yarra River landmarks and destinations," Mr Ahern explained.

"We are thrilled that the service is set to re-commence in December 2013 as it is a great asset to local tourism and elevates Melbourne to the other great river cities of the world," he added.

The service is \$5 for a single trip or \$10 for a day pass. Kids can travel for \$2 for a single trip and \$5 for a day pass.

The Yarra Loop will operate until March. For more information head to www.melbournewater taxis.com.au/yarra-loop/



Left: Passenger a ride on Grower, as part of the Yarra Loop Water Taxi service.



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This is the message of Christmas

In the Bible we read that the Prophet Jeremiah lived in a time of turmoil, when the fate of many nations—including Judah—was being sealed. The message from God was harsh as the creator lodged a indictment against his people. But in the middle of Jeremiah's prophecies, stands a promise of restoration and healing, which God would bring on his people.

One could argue that the high point of Jeremiah's prophecies is the foretelling of this promise of restoration – the “new covenant” – pointing to the coming Messianic era. In this passage Jeremiah writes: “The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel” (Jer.31:31). This Messianic era has of course been fulfilled in the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

This is why “Jesus is the reason for the season”. In Jesus's birth we have the fulfilment of the prophecy, which Jeremiah foretold some 600 years before Christ's birth. As the church celebrates another Christmas and as we prepare to receive yet another New Year, Jeremiah's prophecy gives us encouragement and hope.

It reminds us that God is the author of

history and the ultimate director of human destiny. It reminds us that our days are in God's hands and that he is not unfamiliar with the joys and struggles of our lives. It reminds us that we can hand over our future and the future of our loved ones to God, because he cares for his own.

God came to us in Jesus Christ to makes things better and to remind us that

throughout human history he has been at work and in control. In Jesus, Jeremiah's prophecy of restoration and healing has been fulfilled and is now offered to us in Jesus – the baby asleep in the manger, the crucified one on Golgotha, the risen Lord Jesus Christ. This is the message of Christmas.

Pastor Ian

SOUTHBANK SUDOKU

Last month's Sudoku solution

O	K	A	B	S	T	H	U	N
T	S	B	N	H	U	K	A	O
N	U	H	A	O	K	S	B	T
A	T	N	S	B	H	U	O	K
K	B	S	U	A	O	T	N	H
U	H	O	T	K	N	A	S	B
S	A	T	K	N	B	O	H	U
H	N	K	O	U	S	B	T	A
B	O	U	H	T	A	N	K	S

	A			T	D	O		
								T
B		D	O			U		
T				H		N		
S			K		T			U
		A		O				K
		H			A	B		O
K								
		U	S	N			K	

A variation of Sudoku, with the letters SOUTHBANK replacing the numbers.

The rules are the same as regular Sudoku, each line must contain the letters 'SOUTHBANK' as must each 9-square box.

Good luck!

Christmas Services 2013

- Christmas Eve, 24th December**
- 7:15pm Brass on the Grass (Southgate Podium level)
- 7:30pm Service with poetry, carols and brass quintet
- Christmas Day, 25th December**
- 10am Christmas Day service with communion





YARRA RIVER

Business Association

The inaugural Yarra River business luncheon on 15 November 2013 proved that local business people have needed such an opportunity for many years. 75 people enjoyed two hours of making new contacts, renewing old ones and learning about an exciting new project for the Yarra River.

It was particularly pleasing to see a number of local residents as well, including Tony Penna of the Southbank Residents Group. Hopefully these quarterly lunches will help to bridge the gap between the business and residential interests of the precinct, because our common goal is to create a more liveable environment for residents, workers and visitors as well as promoting local business and commercial opportunities. The next luncheon will be mid-February 2014, so please let us know if you wish to be included on the mailing list, by emailing the address at the end of this column.

The luncheon also generated some new members for the association, so this month we are pleased to welcome: BC Car Rentals of 16 Whiteman St, Avril Image Consulting of Flinders Wharf Tower, Red Mullet Creative of Balaclava, and TGI Fridays, which has just established in Queensbridge Square.

Another reminder that the next few months is prime time to nominate someone for the Yarra River Precinct Customer Service Awards. This is a consumer-driven awards program and we need residents and visitors to tell us "who has made their day". Look for the nomination coupon in this paper, and it will also appear in the February edition. It's a reply-paid response, so all it needs is a few seconds of your time. Business and individual nominees need to be located

and working in the Lower Yarra River and Southbank area.

The better weather and festive spirit has reminded everyone that the best way to see our city is from the water, whether it be on a dining cruise, a gondola, a one hour guided tour, a ferry trip to Williamstown, or a water-based taxi trip. Any of the following can provide you with a very memorable Melbourne experience: Classic Steamboat Cruises, tel. 0425 779 473; Melbourne River Cruises, tel. 9614 1215; Melbourne Water Taxis, tel. 0416 068 655; Venice on the Yarra, tel. 9399 1991; Williamstown Bay and River Cruises, tel. 9682 9555.

As the year draws to a close, we should all be grateful to live or work in one of Australia's great waterfront locations. With the slower pace of life over January, and perhaps a few days off, why not get acquainted with some of the lesser known aspects of the precinct, such as Marina YE at Yarra's Edge, the Police Museum in WTC, No Vacancy Project Space in Federation Square, the Mission to Seafarers building (open to the public), the Plant Cottage in the Botanic Gardens, the Old Melbourne Observatory on Birdwood Avenue, and beautiful musical offerings at St Johns Southgate.

Happy holidaying,
exoff@yarrariver.info

STREET SMARTS



Freshwater Place

Freshwater Place is a multi-purpose, four-building complex that includes residential, commercial and corporate use. Its name however has much simpler origins.

It is named after the spot in the river on which it was built. It may not look like it now, but where the river is now crossed by Queens Bridge once ran a waterfall.

It was the point of the river where the

freshwater met the salt water and boats could go no further up stream.

The waterfall site held great significance to the indigenous people in the area.

In the 1880s local authorities removed the waterfall by blowing it up with dynamite.

Rocks from the waterfall can still be seen today on banks of the Yarra just to the south of Queens Bridge.



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ON THE BOX

with Korey Fernando

Since the late 70s, curious Britons have been bringing their questionable junk to the appraisers of the Antiques Roadshow. Thirty years on and the TV audience's fascination with the concept of unearthing the value of people's items hasn't subsided. Not only is Antiques Roadshow still an enduring and well-known program, but its success has led to a slew of programs that celebrate the heirlooms and collections of the average punter.

In the overseas market and, in particular, the US, a number of different programs exploring the idea of finding value in junk have been highly successful. Some of these shows feature the exploits of pawn shops and their dealings, while others open a window into the lives of professional storage unit auction buyers. These programs feature so heavily, that they have created their own genre within the medium.

Programs featuring more of a modern take on the premise of *Antiques Roadshow* have started to surface also, yet with a fundamental twist.

American Pickers follows two professionals of this trade, Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz as they travel America looking for people's unwanted and rare items in order to turn a profit.

It's basically a one hour program that features experts in the field of antiques, canvassing the holders of deceased estates and octogenarian hoarders and conning them out of a huge payday of their own by relieving them of their items.

It's not exactly daylight robbery; sometimes these people need to clear space, or just need the money, but the fact that every

transaction features profit margins at the end denotes the entire process as a little morally questionable.

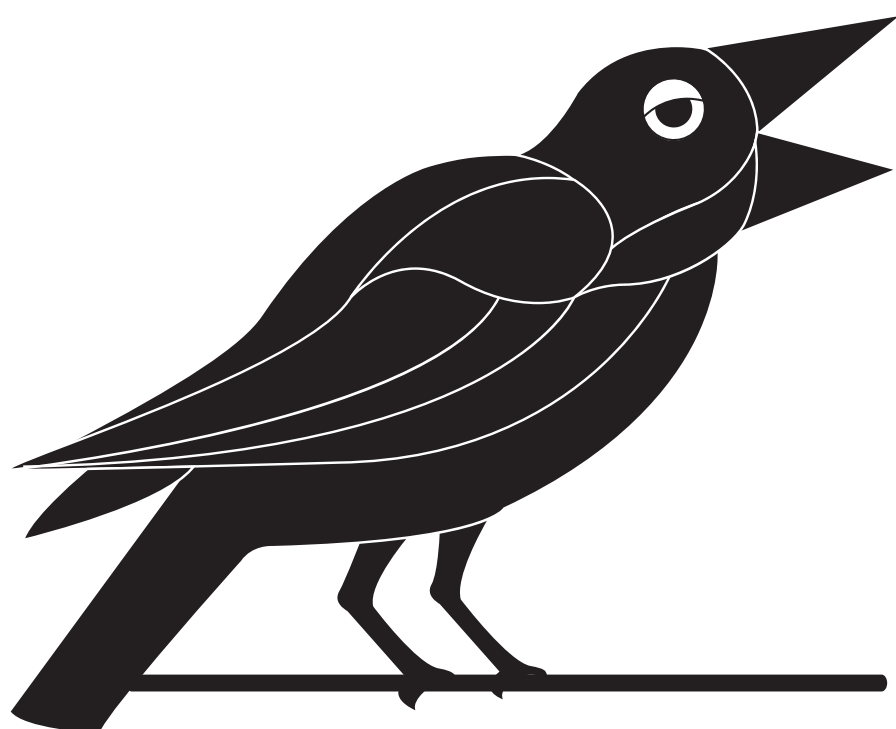
If Mike and Frank make a big find and manage to undercut on it enough, through their narration they'll explain what they paid versus what it is they'll be asking for the exact same item.

The entertainment comes out of the act of discovering some long-forgotten treasure that will fetch a high price with a collector. However, the above mentioned swindling of the honest, trash collecting folk does serve to be pretty unnerving, especially considering

the vast amounts of filler between "picks" that try to humanise Mike and Frank by giving them playful banter. The overall result is conflicting, as you're never exactly sure who you're meant to be barracking for.

American Pickers is the sort of show that you might pick up half way through, while channel surfing after finding nothing but repeats of *Two and a Half Men* on TV. It's one of those funny little shows that runs on a very basic formula, but it's still entertaining because there will always be more rubbish to scrounge through.

American Pickers can be found on 7Mate weeknights at 10.30pm.



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NOW THIS JOB IS A BIT DIFFERENT...

For Tereza Todd, going to work each day means coming face-to-face with a 750 kg crocodile.

Tereza is lead aquarist at the SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium and is one of the croc keepers taking care of new addition, saltwater crocodile Pinjarra.

At over five-metres long, Pinjarra is one of the largest crocodiles on display in the world and has been living at the aquarium since September.

According to Tereza, working as a croc keeper involves a range of different tasks.

"My daily croc duties generally involve checking the water quality and exhibit temperature twice daily, hosing Pinjarra down with fresh water to stimulate him, plus chatting to him so he gets used to our voices," Tereza said.

Tereza said other duties included feeding attempts twice a week, exhibit cleaning and speaking with staff about Pinjarra's behaviour alongside tending to other aquatic animals.

Tereza has worked at the aquarium since 2008 and has worked with crocodiles both at

the aquarium and in previous roles.

Apparently not getting enough of crocodiles at work, Tereza also keeps them as pets. "I've kept crocodiles at home for years and currently own a pet freshwater crocodile named Victor," she said.

But working with a large crocodile such as Pinjarra required some extra training.

Tereza said earlier this year she and four other aquarium staff members attended "croc college" in Queensland where they learnt the finer details involved in caring for one of the world's most feared predators.

"The curriculum was pretty intense but when you're dealing with such a large and powerful creature you definitely don't want to leave anything out," Tereza said.

Given his size you'd think Pinjarra would have a massive appetite but according to Tereza, large animals like Pinjarra can take a few months to settle into new homes.

"We've been closely monitoring his behaviour each day since his arrival and can see he's gradually regaining his appetite. Each day he is exploring his new surroundings a little more and lapping up the attention from all his visitors," Tereza said.

"Once he is completely settled we expect he will eat a couple of chicken portions every day"



Pinjarra, who is believed to be around 50 years old, was relocated to the aquarium from a crocodile farm near Rockhampton in Queensland where he has lived for the past 20 years.

According to Tereza, because saltwater crocodiles are one of the world's most feared predators, many people don't understand why it's important to preserve the species.

"If we wish to protect them for years to come, it's imperative to help educate the public

and that's what we hope to do working with Pinjarra at SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium."

Apart from seeing Pinjarra at Croc Lair, visitors can see a range of underwater creatures at the aquarium, from penguins, to sharks, turtles, and tropical fish.

The SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium is located on the corner of Flinders St and King St and is open every day of the year from 9.30am until 6pm.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Southgate News and Lotto may stock an impressive range of magazines, cards and just about every newspaper ever printed, yet it's the service that really makes the business shine.



Southgate News and Lotto has every newspaper and magazine you could dream of... and much more!

Southgate News and Lotto is owned and operated by Michael and Mark, an uncle/nephew family team who ensure you leave the shop with a smile on your face.

Michael explained that their business philosophy was simply, making sure the customer left satisfied.

"We are working hard on delivering a service proposition that exceeds all of our customers' expectations, by offering a friendly and courteous service," Michael said.

Michael said he and Mark had been looking for a business like Southgate News and Lotto for over 12 months before buying it. It was the Southbank location that swayed them in the end.

"In our opinion it is in the right area, right people and high growth potential. You could not wish to be in a better position supporting the local community and tourism surrounded by a vibrant atmosphere all year round," Michael said.

"It is a vibrant area supporting a very large work force and surrounded with many liveable high rises that support each other and make Southbank a community that we want to be actively involved in," he added.

When they say the name "news and lotto" they really mean it. In addition to the Tatts lotto service, there are magazines from all over the world, international, interstate, industry-based, metro and (most importantly) local newspapers. There is also a remarkable range of gift cards - more than 1030 for sending any kind of wish you could possibly think of.

The business is expanding into the virtual world too, with the offering of stationery online, with free delivery to anywhere in Southbank.

Most of all Michael is hoping to establish the business as a community service.

"We are a family-owned business very keen to become part of the community and offer what the community seeks from us."



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SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS GROUP WITH TONY PENNA

Powering into 2014

Well the year is abruptly coming to an end, much sooner than many of us would have expected.

And the feeling is no different for your new executive team. We have really hit the ground running trying to feel our way through the already established relationships and systems. I feel we are making great progress and into the New Year we hope to have a community meeting to share ideas on how we can better serve the community.

Over the past month there have been a number of significant events where the SRG has been present, representing the views of its members and the wider community.

Firstly, we attended a session regarding the C208 amendment and left there quite satisfied that this amendment was positive. In short, the amendment will see developers making contributions to infrastructure and community developments. SRG will be making a submission essentially supporting

this amendment.

While I am taking the figures on face value for the development forecast presented by Melbourne City Council, I am hopeful that should this forecast not come to fruition, the council would continue with its infrastructure plans and make up the developer shortfall.

SRG had the great pleasure of being invited to contribute to the City of Melbourne Arts Strategy Forum at the town hall. The arts is something I have great interest in (being one of the contributing factors for choosing to live in Southbank) so I was excited about being able to voice my visions and opinions. This forum was well attended and structured. There were some great speakers who really got our minds thinking and people interacting. There were a lot of great ideas being thrown around.

One key point which everyone essentially agreed with was that there needs to be more communication and collaboration with the other councils and especially regional areas because art is not only about Melbourne city and its environs.

2014 is going to be another busy year because it is an election year. This is a great opportunity for SRG to really be heard, as the politicians will be listening! The best way we can ensure the SRG is taken seriously is through our membership base. If you are not currently a member and believe Southbank Residents Group might be able to make a difference to your livability in Southbank, then we welcome your membership support.

Alternatively, you may be an owners corporation committee member or know someone who is? Then what better way for

SRG to get membership support than by a tower choosing to subscribe on behalf of all the owners within that tower. Even if you don't know any of the committee members, then you can still lobby your committee to consider membership.

Want to keep up with what's on in Southbank and what SRG is doing? Then make sure you like us on Facebook! Tell your friends and neighbours to like our page too - Southbank Residents Group.

From all the committee members, we would like to wish all our fellow Southbank residents, and adjoining communities a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Lets all enjoy this holiday season and start 2014 off with a bang.

See you all in 2014.



SACRED SITES

Heritage-listed sites in Southbank

Photography Studies College

In our new column, each month we'll take a look into one of the heritage-listed sites here in Southbank and give you a bit of history behind them.

Starting off with (as you may have guessed from the title) the Photography Studies College.

The college is located at 63-65 City Rd and is heritage-listed because it is a late Victorian warehouse that was given a decorated facade. It remains one of only three of these types of warehouses still substantially intact from Southbank's days as an industrial extension of South Melbourne.

It was built in 1895 and is considered to be in excellent condition for its age. American Romanesque architecture, and particularly H.H. Richardson, heavily influenced the building's design.

There are many buildings of this nature within the City of Melbourne, but this one is protected because they were so rare in industrial areas like South Melbourne.



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What *With* Women *Abby* Want *Crawford*

“So this is Christmas, and what have you done? Another year over, and a new one just” well, just around the corner.

But certainly another new one about to begin. This song, by John Lennon, still gives me a lump in my throat, and brings a tear to my eye. It really makes me think about the year that has been, the friends and family that have passed, the people who will be celebrating in so many different ways – the fact that Christmas should be for everyone.

When I hear John Lennon sing “what have you done”, to me the question is what have you done *that is worthwhile*. And I think that’s why I can get emotional, thinking “have I done *enough*”?

Enough to be a good person, in my own opinion. Enough to know that I have helped, in a positive way. Enough to sit back with a champagne and say “rejoice”. I probably get a bit too emotional at Christmas time, and probably should put on *Jingle Bells Rock* and enjoy a cocktail, but I can’t help think if we all just did a little bit Just a little bit more.

I’m not saying to not enjoy Christmas, and hey, who doesn’t enjoy spending Boxing Day surrounded by mountains of wrapping paper from a stack of present giving, in full

recovery mode from way too much ham, champagne and general good cheer.

I’m not saying you should swap your beachside getaway holiday for two weeks of helping clean up the Philippines ... although I, along with millions of others, would thank you if you did.

And I’m not saying you should cash in the iTunes cards you received to support a child in a third world country for a year.

I’m not even saying you should go down to your community Christmas lunch for the poor and give a hand – although I will be doing that.

What I am saying is, what if you think about what you *could* do throughout the year – and then imagine how you’d feel sitting back at Christmas and being able to say “you know what I did this year? I made a difference”.

It doesn’t have to be big, but maybe there’s a way you could help someone, or an organisation that helps lots of people, or the environment or animals. Maybe you could help build a house for people in

disaster areas, maybe you could contribute financially to a worthwhile cause, maybe you could volunteer a little bit of your time.

Because, imagine if we all did? If we all gave just a little bit? Even if we all just started to care that little bit more? I think that’s a New Year’s Eve resolution we could all make ... to help, just a little bit more.

So when I think about this being Christmas, and I look proudly at my son, I do think briefly about the one new years resolution I made that hasn’t been achieved – I haven’t found love, the partner that I was so open to finding. I didn’t even come close!

However, I have plenty of very funny disastrous date stories, which are great for dinner parties! But what I did do is achieve the resolution & goal that I **could** control – and that was to give more.

I have now been appointed, just at the end of this year, to the role of chairperson for my local health service and I volunteer my time working with the hospitals, health services and our community.

Through my business, I have donated product and event services to charity – my goal for next year is for those contributions to grow.

This goal sits right alongside my other big goal – to be the best mum I can be. In fact, I think it actually is part and parcel, to teach my son the values that I hold dear.

I am a single mum, running my own business and I have been passionate about contributing to not only my community but to organisations that can reach many more people than I can alone.

It has been rewarding, as well as humbling to see those with even less, give more. So if I can give just this little bit, I am hoping you might be able to find your way to give if you haven’t already.

I want to thank you, for giving me the privilege of writing this column for you for another year. I want to thank each of you who have taken the time to write to me.

I now (literally, I’ve just poured a champagne!) raise my glass to each and every one of you. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With much love, Abby

Don’t forget you can email me at life@docklandsnews.com.au

PS please join me on Facebook or Instagram with either [abbyjanecrawford](https://www.facebook.com/abbyjanecrawford) or [loveandprotect](https://www.instagram.com/loveandprotect). See you there! xx



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SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY CALENDAR



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Boyd School Studio, Kavanagh & Balston St

Learn the art of fashion illustration from one of the most experienced illustrators in the world, Louise Baker. Classes designed to prepare their portfolios for tertiary admission or for potential careers in the fashion industry. By appointment. Call Louise Baker **9826 9019**

THE FRENCH WORKSHOP

Every Wednesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road

Discover the beautiful sound of French with Lucie, a native speaker! Our beginner group sessions are friendly and open to everyone and all material is provided.

thefrenchworkshop@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/thefrenchworkshop



READING CIRCLE

First Tuesday of the Month 5:45 - 6:45pm

Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road

Come along to talk about books: those you love, those you want others to love, and those you still haven't discovered.

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www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au



CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASSES

Mondays to Thursdays 6.30pm-8pm, Saturdays 10am-1.15pm

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Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength. For more info:

www.chunkymove.com

MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm-8pm

3 Southbank Promenade

This night photography class runs in Melbourne's city centre and has all the night photography tips you'll ever need. For more info:

www.pennykouloulas.com

ARTS CENTRE SUNDAY MARKET

Sundays, 10am-4pm

Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road

Meet over 80 of Victoria's finest artisans first hand. Discover how these unique artworks are made, chat directly about the products, inspirations and techniques. For more information:

www.theartscentre.com.au

MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

First Thursday of the month, 10.00am

Wharf Hotel, Siddeley St

Probus clubs cater for the needs of men and women over 50. Keep your mind active and meet new friends while enjoying a range of activities.

9600 1628 or carolbergcb@gmail.com

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE MIDWEEK EVENTS

Second Wednesday of the month

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road

Friendship group - Brief Chapel service at 12 noon, followed by lunch at 12.30pm in the Function room. Interesting speakers and a great chance to make new friends.

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au



FREE TAI CHI AT BOYD

Every Friday, 8am - 9am

Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road

Instructors are from Yulong Wu-Shu Tai Chi. Classes are suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced. Courtesy of the City of Melbourne. Contact: **www.yulong.com.au**

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boydcommunity

BREASTFEEDING EDUCATION BEFORE BIRTH

31 City Road Southbank at MANTRA

For women wanting to know how to Breastfeed before their birth and beyond. Attend from 30-40 weeks pregnant. Presented by Maureen Brook. Certified lactation consultant: **0405 933 345**
facebook/breastfeedingeducationbeforebirth
maureen@mybreastfeeding.net.au

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday, 10.30am - 11.15am during school terms

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road

Sunday School for children 3-11 years. Youth Group for teenagers.

Every Tuesday 10am-Noon Playgroup for very young children and their carers
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

CHRISTMAS BUOYED @ BOYD

Thursday, December 12

Boyd Community Centre, 207 City Road

Santa will arrive on a big red fire truck at 4.30pm, then The Mudcakes and Fairy Caitlin will delight the young... and young at heart.

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boyd

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at 10:30am

Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road

Come and share the wonder of books with us! Enjoy approximately 40 - 50 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities.

Phone: 9658 8300

www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au



SOUTHBANK ROTARY

Every Tuesday, 6.30pm

Blue Train Southgate, but subject to change

Rotary Club of Southbank Inc meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year in the Southbank area. Visitors are always welcome.

www.southbank.org.au

YOGA WITH PEI

6.30 pm Tuesdays & 9.00am Saturdays

Mums and bubs class at 9 & 10am on Wednesdays

Assembly Hall at Boyd, 207 City Road

Join us and explore strength, flexibility, balance and relaxation through Yoga. BYO Yoga mat and blanket/bath towel. \$10 per session, every 5th session free.

peipei@yogawithpei.com



BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT CLINIC

Every Tuesday, 1.30pm - 3.00pm

Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road

Providing breastfeeding counselling, support and advice, run by a Maternal and Child Health Nurse/ Lactation Consultant. If you need any assistance/support for you and your baby! MCH 9340 1444, or **mchbookings@melbourne.vic.gov.au**

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Every Sunday

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road

9am - Traditional liturgical worship.
11am - Informal liturgical worship.
6pm - Informal contemporary worship.

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au



PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

10.30am Thursdays

Assembly Hall at Boyd, 207 City Road

Come and share the wonder of books with us! Enjoy approximately 40 - 50 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities with your three to five year olds.

library@melbourne.vic.gov.au

FIRST FRIDAY DANCE CLUB

First Friday of every month at 6pm

Red Stairs @ Queensbridge Square

Come along and test your dancing shoes each month with different genres of dance, but always high levels of fun.

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/whatson

STOMPERS

10.30am Tuesdays

Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road

Stompers is Melbourne Library Service's new weekly program for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 years. Come along for a half-hour of stories, songs, rhymes, music and most of all, FUN!

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From the Evolve Family to yours, we wish you a very
Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!



See you in 2014!

Rental of the Month

1409/480 Collins Street, **MELBOURNE**

STUNNING APARTMENT IN MELBOURNE CBD!



OAKS ON COLLINS' - FULLY FURNISHED 2 BRM APARTMENT
Fully furnished bright & modern two bedroom apartment located within the heart of the CBD. Features include reverse cycle air conditioning, built in robe, well-appointed kitchen equipped with modern appliances, dishwasher, large windows with views of the city. In addition, you may also enjoy the amenities such as the fitness area, pool and sauna. Enjoy the convenience of city living by walking to the Southern Cross Station, supermarket, Docklands, CBD, Crown Casino and various fine restaurants.

Contact: Vanessa Lillyman 0458 386 583



RESIDENTIAL - FOR SALE



1406/283 City Road **SOUTHBANK**
STUNNING, STYLISH AND AFFORDABLE



Boasting a five-star location it is within walking distance to the CBD, Crown Casino, South Melbourne's shopping precinct, the Royal Botanic Gardens and public transport.

Contact: Quinn Zhong 0422 242 013



3205/31 A'Beckett Street **MELBOURNE**
MOTIVATED VENDOR IS SELLING!



Comprising of 2 bedrooms, a modern and stylish kitchen which includes stainless steel appliances throughout and a dishwasher, the apartment also sports modern open-plan living and a private, secure car space.

Contact: Henry Jiang 0467 890 123



705/8 Kavanagh Street **SOUTHBANK**
MOTIVATED VENDOR IS SELLING!



This bright and spacious apartment soaks in the morning sunlight and boasts 110m² of luxury living, as well as a secure undercover car park - sure to impress the fustiest of buyers.

Contact: Michael Tuder 0487 86 85 84



343/183 City Road **SOUTHBANK**
STUNNING APARTMENT IN SOUTHANK!



The location is perfect with access to shopping, restaurants, the CBD and public transport all within a short walk from this great apartment complex.

Contact: Henry Jiang 0467 890 123

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Apartment 2: 2 1

Apartment 3: 2 1

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